

## STEPHEN ROURKE RÉSUMÉ

**STEPHEN ROURKE** is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin. Over the past 35 years he has been intensively involved in supporting and guiding a range of voluntary/community initiatives in Ireland. His main areas of work and assignments have included:

- Promoting and supporting community based enterprise in Belfast as a management consultant with Industrial Training Services, and Economic Development Worker with the Centre for Neighbourhood Development.
- Policy formation, strategic development and project support work for the Youth Employment Agency in Dublin. This primarily related to the Agency's Community Enterprise Programme, the national support programme for local employment initiatives
- Work for the Ireland Funds, the largest independent grantgiving foundation in Ireland. Functions included preparing and presenting policy papers and, for a 3 year period, operating as Executive Director of the Funds. Stephen Rourke was on the Board of Philanthropy Ireland for 10 years (including a 5 year period as chairperson); he is currently a Board member of St. Stephen's Green Trust and has been chairperson of this charitable foundation since 2007.
- Policy development and organisational development work for Dublin Inner City Partnership; Pobal (assessment of grant procedures and development of policy on disability); Clondalkin Partnership; Irish Youth Foundation (needs and opportunities in Northern Ireland); Youth Council for Northern Ireland (review of Community Relations Grant Scheme); International Fund for Ireland (review of Community Relations Programme and Community Leadership Programme); Co-Operation Ireland (review of Youth, Education and Community Programme); Dublin City-Wide Drugs Crisis Campaign; South Dublin URBAN Initiative; An Garda Síochána (Community Policing Initiative); the Diocese of Down and Dromore; Ballymun Regional Youth Resource (BRYR); and the inter-agency Travellers in Prison Initiative.
- The formulation of development plans for the Church of Ireland Youth Council; East Bank Development Project (a major youth and community initiative in Derry); Glencree Centre for Reconciliation; Dublin Inner City Partnership (production of strategic plan for the North-West Inner City of Dublin); Cairde, support organisation for people with AIDS; the Fermanagh Trust; Spirit of Enniskillen Bursary Scheme; Killinarden Education Network; Tallaght Drugs Task Force; An Síol and MACRO community development projects; Parkinson's Association of Ireland; Disability Federation of Ireland; Westmeath Community Development; HIV Ireland; TESO (Travellers Education Support Options) project in Finglas, Dublin 11; and Moyross Community Enterprise Centre.
- Independent evaluations for Tallaght Partnership (analysis of effectiveness/impact); Co-operation Ireland (evaluation of series of significant cross-border exchange programmes); Tallaght Centre for the Unemployed; Blanchardstown Youth Service (evaluation of programme for early school leavers); Barnardos (evaluation of Edenderry Family Centre); Dublin Inner City Partnership (evaluation of Community Technical Aid); Foróige (evaluation of work with young mothers); National Drugs Strategy Team (evaluation of projects in the Tallaght area); Limerick Social Service

Council (review of Family Support Initiative); Ceim ar Cheim Probation Project in Limerick; Dublin Institute of Technology (review of Chaplaincy Service); and parishes of Moyross and Southill (review of Regeneration Programme in Limerick City between 2007 and 2016).

- Project assessment and appraisal work for Pobal (appraisal of applications made to Dormant Accounts Fund, Enhancing Disability Services programme; Equality for Women Measure); Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (appraisal of cross-community and community development proposals); independent Trust Funds (including the Ireland Funds and St. Stephen's Green Trust); and New Paediatric Hospital Development Board (appraisal of Community Benefit Plans within completed tenders for main building contracts).
- Project management work for the Franciscan Order (in relation to the re-development of Multyfarnham Abbey in County Westmeath); the Bonaventure Trust (in relation to the re-development of the Franciscan church and friary in Limerick City); Beacon of Light Counselling Centre; Dublin AIDS Alliance (voluntary Board member for 10 years); Sophia Housing (in relation to buildings and land at Sean McDermott Street, Dublin 1); and The Sons of Divine Providence (in relation to lands and buildings at Lower Ballyfermot, Dublin 10).
- Production of needs analysis surveys for local communities in Dublin's Inner City (O'Devaney Gardens, East Wall, North East Inner City); in Blanchardstown (Mulhuddart, Blakestown, Mountview, Huntstown, Hartstown); and in Navan. Many of these needs analysis surveys have been carried out in conjunction with the RAPID programme and with other national anti-poverty initiatives.

These work situations have brought Stephen Rourke into contact with a broad cross-section of different interests in the community and voluntary sector. The variety of tasks - evaluation, fund-raising, training, research, organisational development, practitioner - have enabled him to gain a thorough understanding of the community/voluntary sector and the needs of organisations therein.